

ADS-8

FBIS-2512/88
19 February 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted] Chief, Engineering Group, OIT

FROM: [redacted] Chief, Engineering Support Group, FBIS

SUBJECT: FBIS' 56-Kbps Backup Link to P&PD [redacted]

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1. Your assistance in resolving a near-term reliability problem and addressing a long-term alternate routing for FBIS' fiber-optic link to P&PD is requested. [redacted]

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2. The existing [redacted] to P&PD fiber-optic circuit includes a primary and a backup 56-Kbps service over which FBIS passes all of its Daily Report product to P&PD. Since 20 August 1987, when FBIS established operations at Reston, we have had persistent problems with the availability of these links. This backup circuit has only been operational a small percentage of the time. The major problem appears to be poor reliability of the Optic Data Systems (ODS) modems. They have failed three times since being placed in service and OIT has experienced difficulty in obtaining timely vendor maintenance. Our primary line has also failed on two occasions with the trouble traced to either the MEGAMUX or the ODS modems. When our primary circuit fails, and since we have rarely had an operational backup circuit, FBIS is forced to revert to hand-carrying tapes to P&PD. This process is not only inconvenient but jeopardizes the production of our eight Daily Report books as it takes approximately six hours to produce the tapes which delays delivery of the information to P&PD. [redacted]

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3. We would like to suggest the following actions for your consideration:

- o Replacement of the current ODS-114 modems. A total of eight are in use on the two circuits. [redacted]
- o An enhanced maintenance agreement with ODS to include additional on-site spares. A two-hour maximum restoration time is required to avoid making tapes. [redacted]

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4. As a separate issue, FBIS would like to document a long-term requirement for a physically separate alternate path to P&PD. The current primary and alternate paths are supported on a common MEGAMUX system between our two locations and consequently we do not enjoy the advantages of a truly separate path. [redacted]

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5. Your review of the reliability of our current service and of our long-term requirement for a physically independent alternate circuit would be appreciated. My point of contact on this issue is
 who can be reached at

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Distribution:

Orig - Addressee

1 - DC/AFSB

1 - HED Chrono

1 - ESG Chrono

1 - FBIS Registry

DS&T/FBIS/ESG/HED/

19Feb88

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